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## REMARKS

By this Amendment claims 1-11 have been amended to remove reference numerals and new claim 12 has been added to alternatively define the invention. Entry is requested.

In the outstanding Office Action the examiner has rejected claims 1, 5 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Jonasson et al. and he has stated that claims 2-4, 6-8, 10 and 11 contain allowable subject matter.

The inventors thank the examiner for his indication of allowable subject matter.

However, the inventors assert that the rejection against claims 1, 5 and 9 is without merit and should be withdrawn.

Jonasson et al. disclose a fluid dispensing apparatus wherein a slide valve 24 mounted in an elastic element 32 at the second end 28 of an elongated piezoelectric transducer 22 is movable transversely relative to an axis 30 defined by the transducer so as to enable fluid to flow from a fluid supply passage 36 along a recess 34 and ejected through a dispensing passage 16. However, the longitudinal axis of the transducer 22 and the force applied by the elastic element 32 on the slide valve 24 are not aligned when the transducer 22 is in an intermediate positioning and the slide valve is not positioned to swing about an axis which extends perpendicularly to the direction of deflection of the transducer 22 (these

relationships are defined in claim 1 of this application). As such, all the features of claim 1 are not disclosed in this patent.

The examiner's prior art rejection should be withdrawn and all the claims allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

DYKEMA GOSSETT PLLC

By: _____

Richard H. Tushin
Registration No. 27,297
Franklin Square, Third Floor West
1300 I Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3353
(202) 906-8600